Purchase of YMP-132 Super Computer from USA

2134. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to purchase YMP-132 Super Computer apart from XMP 14 from U.S.A.; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS, AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) and (b) The Government propose to purchase another Super Computer apart from the XMP 14. However, the final decision on the choice of the system is yet to be taken.

Electronics in health care

2135. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have constituted a panel of electronic experts in health care; and

(b) if so, the details thereof with terms of reference?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS, AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes, Sir. A Task Force on "Electronics for Health Care" has been set up by Department of Electronics in August, 1988.

(b) The terms of reference of the Task Force are as follows:

(1) The requirements of electronics in health care for the Eighth and Ninth plans as also to seek a target for the year 2000.

(2) To study the various manufacturing facilities available in the country and to identify the requirement of specific components and equipment that would be required to meet the demand of the Electronic Health Care Equipmnt.

(3) To study the existing Import Policy and duty structure on imported equipment vis-a-vis indigenous manufacture, especially the anomaly of zero import duty on finished imported equipment vis-a-vis 40-250% import duty on components and sub-assemblies for the same and to suggest suitable remedies.

(4) To look at various excise and sales tax applicable to manufacture products and to suggest means of bringing them in line with similar duties on imported equipment.

(5) To interface with the Ministry of Health to suggest ways and means for setting up district health care centres equipped with most modern electronic equipment in health care so as to disperse the benefit of modern health care to rural poor.

Leprosy vaccine

2136. DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the long-promised leprosy vaccine has been field tested and cleared for use in the country; and

(b) how many human cases have been administered this vaccine so far and the results of findings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ HAPARDE): (a) Leprosy Vaccines are under various stages of experimentations and clinical trials and no such vaccine has yet been marketed.

(b) Does not arise.